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“Why is a raven like a writing desk?”

Anchorage--We're not really sure, but The Arc of Anchorage invites you to join a mad cast of characters for the Artful Tea. The Artful Tea will be an afternoon of whimsy, tea sandwiches, and of course, tea. If you find a teapot that catches your eye, don't worry, it is possible to leave with it and not worry about the King of Hearts.

If you have not guessed yet, the theme for the Artful Tea is Alice in Wonderland. Come dressed as your favorite character (or not) and join a cast of characters assembled by The Arc's rabbit hole researchers.

The Artful Tea is a fundraiser benefitting The Arc's Recreation Center. The recreation center provides life skills education, art, and recreation for hundreds of Alaskans who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities. Many of these Alaskans are facing reductions in access to the recreation center because of cuts to state and federal funding. For some of these Alaskans, it means less opportunity to live an ordinary life. You can help . . . and the first step is purchasing a ticket to the Artful Tea and joining us for a couple hours of fun and refreshments.

The Artful Tea will be noon to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday July 21 at The Field of Dreams at The Arc of Anchorage. Tickets are \$50 per person. Tickets are available at Blaine's Art, The Arc of Anchorage office, or the day of the event. All the teapots will be auctioned during the event.

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Alina Veileux (vey-ooo) is the Recreation Center Team Leader for The Arc of Anchorage. She has a long career in the human services field. Prior to The Arc of Anchorage she worked in Oregon for non-profit serving people who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities. For the past three years, she has developed programs and classes at The Arc to help Alaskans with disabilities learn independent living, healthy life skills, art, recreation, and fun. Alina is a volunteer coach for Special Olympics.

Chris Hall is the Public Relations Officer for The Arc of Anchorage. He has worked for The Arc for three years. Prior to coming to work at The Arc, Chris did not have much experience working with people who experience disabilities. However, the last three years has been filled with joy and excitement because the people he gets to interact with daily.